

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently amended) A skate including a glide member for traversing a surface, comprising:

a shoe portion for receiving a skater's foot and including a base underlying the received foot; and

an elongate frame for mounting the glide member, the frame pivotably secured to an underside of the base, wherein the frame is balanced to prevent substantial biasing of the frame towards the base and away from the base.

30. (Currently amended) A skate including a glide member for traversing a surface, comprising:

a shoe portion for receiving a skater's foot and including a flexible base underlying the received foot, wherein the base flexes at a metatarsal region;

an elongate frame for mounting the glide member, the frame operably coupled to the base, allowing the frame to move in an arc motion away from the base; and

a biasing device operably mounted on the frame, for biasing the frame away from the base.

31. (Original) The skate of Claim 30, wherein the base further comprises a heel region and forefoot region, the base being adapted to flex at a metatarsal region at the forefoot region during skating and wherein the frame is secured to an underside of the forefoot region of the base.

32. (Original) The skate of Claim 31, further comprising a guide secured to the frame for slidably engaging a follower, wherein the follower is secured to the heel portion of the base.

33. (Original) The skate of Claim 32, further comprising a controller to adjust the amount of biasing.

34. (Original) The skate of Claim 33, wherein the biasing device is a coil spring mounted on the guide and the controller is a slidable collar mounted on the guide with a thumbscrew fastener.

35. (Previously presented) A skate including a glide member for traversing a surface, comprising:

a shoe portion for receiving a skater's foot and including a flexible base underlying the received foot; and

an elongate frame for mounting the glide member, the frame operably coupled to the base, wherein the base is neutrally biased.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) The skate of Claim 35, wherein the flexible base has about zero flex strength.

38. (Previously presented) The skate of Claim 35, wherein the flexible base is made from a resilient base material with little spring force.

39. (Previously presented) The skate of Claim 35, wherein the flexible base is made from leather.

40. (Previously presented) The skate of Claim 35, wherein the flexible base has an area of reduced thickness at the point of flexion.

41. (Previously presented) The skate of Claim 35, wherein the flexible base is made from a thermoplastic material that has a transverse groove on the underside of the base.